

Kaplan 2000-0068

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Cancel)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 ~~1~~ further comprising a step of sending an alert signal to said customer's line CPE.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said alert signal is commingled with said called number ID signal.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein said alert signal comprises one or more ringing signal bursts.
6. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 5 where said commingling places said called number ID signal following a first ringing-signal burst of said one or more ringing signal bursts.
7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 ~~1~~ further comprising the step of sending to said customer's line CPE one or more special service messages that indicate
- (a) whether a connection to said a CPE connected to said customer's line is sought to be established, which CPE represents to a called number that is marked as "listed" in a directory-assistance database that is accessible to everyone, or
 - (b) whether a connection to said CPE is sought to be established, which CPE represents to a called number that is marked as "unlisted" in said directory-assistance database,
 - (c) ~~the calling number that seeks to establish a connection with said CPE,~~
 - (d) ~~time of day,~~ or
 - (e) type of call.

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8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 wherein said type of call is taken from a set that includes collect calls, international calls, calls, fax calls, modem calls, and credit card calls.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5 where said commingling places said called number ID signal ahead of a first ringing-signal burst of said one or more ringing signal bursts.

10. (New) A method of alerting a customer line to which a called telephone number translates comprising the step of:

querying a database, upstream from a customer premises to which said customer line extends, to determine whether more than one telephone number translates to said customer line;

when said step of querying determines that more than one telephone number translates to said customer line, coding said called telephone number to form a called number ID signal; and

sending said called number ID signal to said customer line, to be applied to one or more CPE that may be connected to said customer line.